



Janet Napolitano
Governor

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY
1789 W. Jefferson, Site Code 837A, Phoenix, AZ 85007

David A. Berns
Director

October 5, 2005

Public Notice
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
For
Marriage and Communication Skills Workshops
Number E-PPA-6001

Dear Prospective Respondent:

The Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES), Division of Business and Finance (DBF), Policy and Planning Administration (PPA), will be conducting a Request for Information (RFI) meeting regarding the Marriage and Communication Skills Workshop Service (hereinafter "Workshops"). The purpose of the meeting is to obtain input from the community and potential offerors regarding the most effective means for the ADES to deliver this service utilizing contracted providers, and to market the service to the population most in need of the service and least able to afford it.

The Workshops provide eligible participants with marriage and communication skills that can be applied in a practical manner in participants' daily lives. Workshops shall emphasize "... relationship skills, including communication and negotiation skills that are necessary to resolve common relationship problems." The Workshops shall also include discussions of "... family law and domestic violence issues ..." and "... marriage license options, including covenant marriage options."

The ADES has directed or targeted this service for low-income families although others are welcome to participate.

A list of questions of particular interest to ADES and additional information can be found at <http://www.de.state.az.us/opac/events.asp>.

The Request for Information meeting will be held:

Date: October 20, 2005
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Location: Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)
206 South 17th Avenue, Auditorium
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

This is the only location for this meeting statewide. If you have any questions regarding this RFI, please contact John Hoag at 602 542-3882 or JHOAG@AZDES.GOV. Thank you for your participation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Katherine K. Babonis
Procurement Officer

Published in: Arizona Republic, Phx.; Arizona Daily Star, Tuc.; and, Arizona Daily Sun, Flag., AZ
Date published in all the above newspapers: 10/05/2005

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program
For Alternative Format/reasonable accommodations (602) 542-3882

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Number E-PPA-6001

Marriage and Communication Skills Workshops

PURPOSE: The purpose of the RFI is to obtain input from the public, interested contractors, and past contractors who provided “Marriage and Communication Skills Workshop services” on the most effective means for the Department to deliver this service utilizing contracted providers and the most effective means to market this service to persons who need the service and are unable to pay for it.

BACKGROUND:

1. Arizona Revised Statutes § 41-2031 establishes a “Marriage and Communication Skills Commission.” Arizona Revised Statutes § 41-2032 establishes a “Community-Based Marriage and Communication Skills Program” (hereinafter “the Program”) and establishes a “Community-Based Marriage and Communication Skills Program Fund” (hereinafter “the Program Fund”). Contract services shall be provided in accordance with these statutes.
2. The Program service provides Marriage and Communication Skills Workshops (hereinafter “Workshops”). Persons may apply to the ADES for assistance in paying the cost to attend workshops. Workshops shall emphasize “. . . relationship skills, including communication and negotiation skills that are necessary to resolve common relationship problems.” The Workshops shall also include discussions of “. . . family law and domestic violence issues . . . ” and “. . . marriage license options, including covenant marriage options.”
3. This service has been provided by contractors from September 2001 through June 30, 2005, in various Arizona communities. Contracts expired on July 1, 2005. In order to re-implement the program, the Marriage and Communication Skills Commission is contemplating the issuance of a new Request for Proposals (RFP). The Commission is requesting input regarding the program from the public and potential offerors. Input should focus on ways to best manage the delivery of the services to ensure they reach low-income families.

RFI QUESTIONS :

1. How best can the Marriage and Communications Skills Commission and the Department structure this program to enable low-income individuals to participate?
2. How best can the Marriage and Communications Skills Commission and the Department structure this program to ensure providers are best able to serve the targeted population?
3. What is the most effective method to ensure exceptional performance, and what performance measures are the most effective to monitor quality?
4. How best can the program be marketed to the targeted population?

HOW TO RESPOND:

Attend the Request for Information meeting at the scheduled date, time, and location. Participate in the discussion.

Your written response to this Request for Information Questions should be delivered by **NO LATER THAN 3:00 p.m. (MST), October 20, 2005, at either the following postal or e-mail address:**

John Hoag
Arizona Department of Economic Security
Policy and Planning Administration
1789 W. Jefferson, Site Code 837A, 4th Floor, NW Corner
Phoenix, AZ 85007
E-Mail Address: JHoag@azdes.gov

SUBMITTAL: It is recommended that your response be electronically sent to the e-mail address above. Your submittal should:

- * Reference RFI Number **E-PPA-6001** on the cover of the envelope, or the e-mail Subject line;
- * Be sent as a Microsoft Word document;
- * Include company name, address, and telephone number;
- * Include the name, title, direct telephone number, and e-mail address of the person designated to respond to any questions regarding your comments.

REIMBURSEMENT: DES will not reimburse any respondent for the cost of preparing and submitting a response to this RFI.